

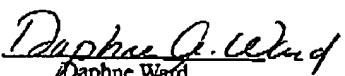
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Heiland

APPLICATION NO.: 09/297,406**FILED: April 29, 1999****FOR: CLAMPING DEVICE AND
PRODUCTION PROCESS****EXAMINER: BRITAIN****ART UNIT: 3677****CONFIRMATION NO:****CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to Examiner James R. Brittain, Art Unit 3677 of the USPTO via facsimile number (703)-872-9326.

Date: October 24, 2002

 Daphne Ward

Box No-Fee Amendment
 Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT AND REMARKS

Dear Examiner Brittain:

In response to the final Office Action of April 24, 2002. Please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-2, 8, 15, 19 and 27 without prejudice.

4. (Thrice amended). A clamping device with two or more grip jaws, which merge into a pincer portion each and are joined together in a transition area by a crosspiece, wherein both the clamping device and a half-profile of said clamping device are integrally formed from plastic and the pincer portions take the form of hollow chamber profiles, characterized in that, in the inoperative state, the grip jaws lie adjacent to each other in a biased condition generated by extrusion and that the pincer portions are spaced apart.

[A clamping device as recited in claim 1] wherein a unitary spring d vice forces the pincer portion apart in addition to the biasing force.